



SOUVENIR BOOK OF
YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

A. Dean and Jean M. Larsen
Yellowstone Park Collection



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YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

The Most Noted National Park in the World

It is an acknowledged fact that Yellowstone National Park is the most peculiar and wonderful area of its size in the known world. So true is this that it is impossible to compare it with any other region for it is so utterly unlike any other.

The story of this park land is a fascinating one. It comprises all kinds of adventure when the country was new, wild and unknown; its geological story is a rare and interesting one; its adaptation from a wild unknown land into a great national park, exhibits the wisdom shown by governments, now and then, and the resources and ingenuity of mankind in new feats of accomplishment.

Yellowstone Park has numerous natural physical features common to many other regions—mountains, rivers, mountain trout streams, forests, lakes, waterfalls, canyons, etc. In some of these features, even, it is unique and unusual. For example Yellowstone Lake, a beautiful body of water with an area of about 140 square miles and a shore line of 100 miles, is the highest navigated body of water in this country, and there are but two or three lakes in the world of equal size and altitude. The lake lies 7,741 feet above sea level—nearly a mile and a half, and is surrounded by high mountains. Again, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone is distinctly in a class by itself. It is not the largest nor the deepest canyon we have, but in its peculiar nature sculpturing and coloring it is beyond question without a rival. As a Japanese has expressively phrased it, all the sunsets of all the yesterdays are emblazoned upon its walls.

The geological story of the park is told in the presence of the usual sedimentary rocks laid down by a large, ancient body of water long since disappeared; then came several outflows of molten lava from three volcanic centers in the region, and these were followed by glaciers that gouged away rock walls and excavated canyons and valleys, depositing the debris in moraines miles distant from where it was gathered.

While in its general scenic properties and in its accommodations for tourist travel, the Yellowstone is notably attractive, there are two features in which it stands absolutely unique and alone. The first of these is in its hot water and geyser phenomena. The constantly hot and steaming terrace pools at Mammoth Hot Springs, beautiful in their

clarity and purity, produce algaous growths which, depending upon the various temperatures of the waters, themselves produce the many colors of the marvelously fretted and fluted terrace walls seen. The deposit given off by the waters which form these hard terrace fronts and walls, is called travertin. This material is soft, friable and limelike or calcareous in its nature.

The geysers, while of boiling water and closely allied to the hot springs, are explosive fountains of great and intensive power. The sediment deposited by them in the upbuilding and fabrication of the geyser domes and craters and cones, unlike that of the hot pool terraces is of silica, a very hard flinty substance. These geysers throw hot water, some of them at regularly intermittent periods, while others are utterly erratic and irregular. Old Faithful, one of the most prominent geysers, expels its contents to a height of 125 to 150 feet every 65 minutes with rarely any noticeable variation in time. On the other hand Excelsior geyser, a water volcano and veritable monster of its kind, has not "played" since 1888.

There are several thousand hot springs and about one hundred geysers in Yellowstone Park besides a countless number, perhaps, of fumaroles, mud springs, sulphur pools, paint pots, etc.

The second feature of the Park's originality, interest and, it may be added, usefulness and educative value, is in its being a haven of preservation and rest for wild animals of the indestructible classes. Deer, antelope, bison or buffalos, mountain sheep, bears and elk are found here in large numbers. By actual count there are between 25,000 and 30,000 elk that call the park their home, and here they live almost entirely unafraid of human beings. The government affords them constant protection, and most of them never saw a dog nor heard the sound of a gun. Tourists in the park see some of nearly all these various kinds of animals. There are beavers, badgers and other lesser members of the animal tribes, between 150 and 200 species of birds from eagles, owls and ospreys down to woodpeckers, tanagers, wrens, thrushes, and a multitude of other varieties.

The park is the greatest trout preserve in the world. There are six or seven distinct species of trout in the thousands of miles of park waters, and the government keeps the streams constantly stocked from its fish hatcheries, one of which is located at Yellowstone lake near the big Colonial hotel.



OLD FAITHFUL INN.



EMERALD SPRING, UPPER GEYSER BASIN.



COURTESY OF NORTHEASTERN PACIFIC RY CO

UPPER BASIN FROM OLD FAITHFUL GEYSER.



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BEARS.



YELLOWSTONE CANYON.



MORNING GLORY.



SILVER GATE AND THE HOODOOS.

JOHN HOFFORD FOR NORTHERN PACIFIC RY. CO.



PUNCH BOWL.

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"COURTESY OF NORTHERN PACIFIC RY CO."

MUD VOLCANO.



CANYON HOTEL.



CASTLE AND BEE HIVE GEYSERS.



GOLDEN GATE.



GUY CLIFFORD FOR NORTHERN PACIFIC R.R.

OLD FAITHFUL.



JUPITER TERRACE.



MAMMOTH HOTEL.



RIVERSIDE GEYSER.

